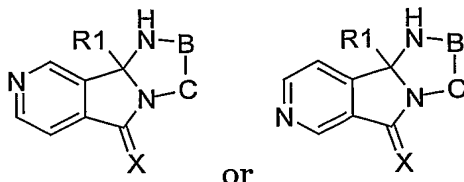


## AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 10 May 2005 (10.05.05);  
new claims 67-82 added; remaining claims unchanged (3 pages)]

67. A compound of formula



and salts thereof, wherein

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the pyridyl ring is optionally substituted;

B-C is an optionally substituted linker of the formula  $-\text{CH}_2-(\text{CH}_2)_z-$ , where z is 1-4;

10  $R_1$  is selected from  $\text{C}_{1-12}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_{2-12}$  alkenyl,  $\text{C}_{2-12}$  alkynyl,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{C}_{3-7}$  cycloalkyl,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{C}_{4-7}$  cycloalkenyl,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_n$  aryl,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_n$  aryl $\text{C}_{1-12}$  alkyl,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_n$  aryl $\text{C}_{2-12}$  alkenyl,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_n$  aryl $\text{C}_{2-12}$  alkynyl, and  $-(\text{CH}_2)_n$  heterocyclyl; n is 0-6 and the alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, aryl and heterocyclyl groups are optionally substituted;

15 X is selected from O, S and  $\text{NR}_6$ , where  $R_6$  is independently selected from hydrogen, lower alkyl, hydroxy and lower alkoxy;

with the proviso that when -B-C- is  $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2)-$ ,  $R_1$  is not 3- $\text{CH}_3$ , 4- $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NHC}(\text{O})\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ -phenyl-.

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68. The compound as defined in claims 67 and salts thereof, wherein the pyridyl ring is optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from halo,  $-\text{NH}_2$ ,  $-\text{NO}_2$ ,  $-\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl, aryl and heterocyclyl, the aryl and heterocyclyl groups optionally substituted with halo,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl or halo substituted  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl, and the ring nitrogen of the pyridyl ring may optionally be an N-oxide.

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69. The compound as defined in claim 67 and salts thereof, wherein the pyridyl ring is optionally substituted with a substituent selected from halo, alkyl,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5-$ ,  $\text{CH}_3-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-$ ,  $\text{CF}_3-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-$ , pyridyl and  $\text{NO}_2$ , and the ring nitrogen of the pyridyl ring may optionally be an N-oxide.

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70. The compound as defined claim 67 and salts thereof, wherein the pyridyl ring is not substituted.

35 71. The compound as defined in claim 67 and salts thereof, wherein the linker -B-C- is as defined in any one of claims 21 to 23.

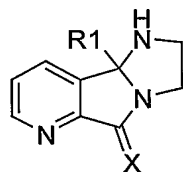
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72. The compound as defined in claim 67 and salts thereof, wherein X is oxygen or sulphur.

5 73. The compound as defined in claim 67 and salts thereof, wherein X is oxygen.

74. The compound as defined in claim 67 and salts thereof, wherein R<sub>1</sub> is as defined in any one of claims 25 to 29.

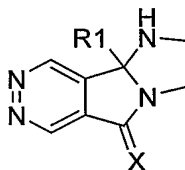
10 75. A compound of formula



and salts thereof, wherein the pyridyl ring is optionally substituted and R<sub>1</sub> and X are as defined in Claim 67, with the proviso that R<sub>1</sub> is not 4-chlorophenyl.

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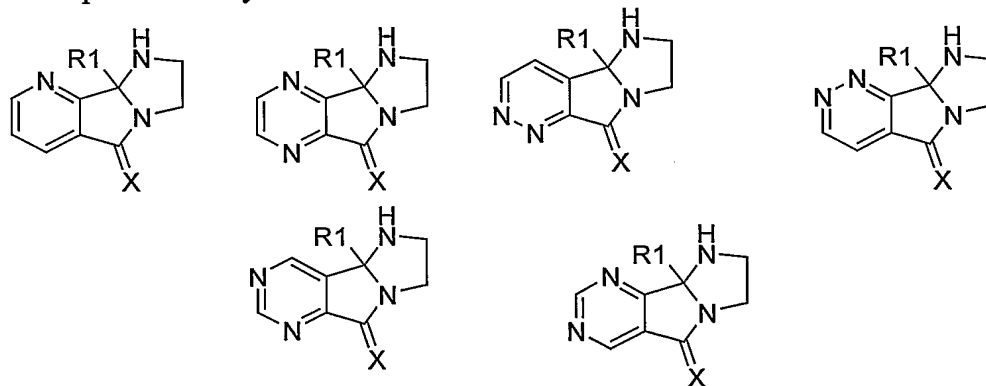
76. A compound of the formula



and salts thereof, wherein the fused pyridazinyl ring is optionally substituted and R<sub>1</sub> and X are as defined in Claim 67, with the proviso that R<sub>1</sub> is not phenyl, 4-chlorophenyl or 4-methoxyphenyl.

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77. A compound of any one of the formula

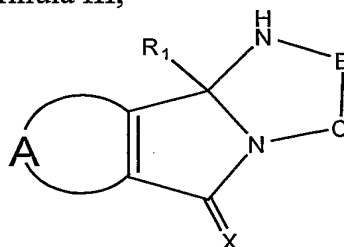


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and salts thereof, wherein the fused pyridyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl or pyrimidinyl ring is optionally substituted and R<sub>1</sub> and X are as defined in Claim 67.

- 5 78. Use of a compound of formula III,



Formula III

and salts thereof, wherein R<sub>1</sub>, ring A, -B-C- and X are as defined in claim 38, as an intermediate for the production of a compound of formula I as defined in claim 38.

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79. A method of separating the enantiomers of a compound of formula III by forming diastereomeric salts of the compounds using an enantiomerically enriched chiral hydrogen phosphate.

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80. A method of separating the enantiomers of a compound as defined in claim 67 by forming diastereomeric salts of the compound using an enantiomerically enriched chiral hydrogen phosphate.

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81. The compound as defined in claim 38 in a substantially pure optically active form.

82. The compound as defined in claim 67, 75, 76 or 77 in a substantially pure optically active form.